

## Message Text

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72

ORIGIN OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01

NSC-05 ERDA-05 NRC-05 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /077 R

DRAFTED BY OES/SCI/SA:DAVOGT:VML

APPROVED BY OES/SCI/SA:DAVOGT

EA/PRCM:JTAYLOR

EUR/SOV:SPOLANSKY

EUR/WE:WMARSH

NEA/INS:BBROWN

S/P:WEGATHRIGHT

----- 033099

R 031537Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128767

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT:ASTP MISSION

1. FOR MOSCOW: WE PLAN TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING APPROACHES TO THE COUNTRIES LISTED. PLEASE INQUIRE OF THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY IF THEY HAVE ANY PLANS OR OBJECTIONS TO OUR PASSING THESE NOTIFICATIONS.

2. PLEASE INFORM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE FOLLOWING AFTER RECEIVING CLEARANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT WHICH WILL BE BASED UPON THE ANSWER FROM MOSCOW:

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A. THE APOLLO-SOYUZ TEST FLIGHT MISSION, SCHEDULED FOR A LAUNCH DATE OF JULY 15, 1975, WILL INCLUDE FLIGHT AT ALTITUDES AS LOW AS 118 NM. THIS IS LOW ENOUGH, IN OUR OPINION, THAT EYE DAMAGE COULD OCCUR IF EVEN A LOW ALTITUDE

NUCLEAR DETONATION WERE VISIBLE TO THE ASTRONAUTS OR COSMONAUTS. FURTHERMORE, A HIGH ALTITUDE TEST (ABOVE 50-60,000 FEET) COULD CAUSE ADVERSE RADIATION EFFECTS. THE ORBITAL PATH OF THE SPACECRAFT WILL RANGE OVER THE EARTH'S SURFACE BETWEEN 52 DEGREES NORTH AND 52 DEGREES SOUTH. THE SOYUZ SPACECRAFT WILL DESCEND AND LAND ON JULY 21 AND THE APOLLO

SPACECRAFT WILL LAND ON JULY 24.

B. THE US GOVERNMENT IS REQUESTING THE COOPERATION OF ALL GOVERNMENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS IN AVOIDING TESTS THAT COULD AFFECT THE APOLLO/SOYUZ FLIGHT. WE WILL APPRECIATE THE COOPERATION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT IN THIS REGARD. IF YOUR GOVERNMENT WISHES MORE DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING ORBITAL PATHS, WE WILL BE GLAD TO PROVIDE IT.

3. FOR PEKING: YOU SHOULD OPEN YOUR APPROACH BY REFERRING TO OUR REQUEST IN 1973 FOR PRC COOPERATION DURING SKYLAB MISSION THAT YEAR. YOU SHOULD ALSO AMEND LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 1 TO STATE WE WILL SOON PROVIDE THE MINISTRY PRECISE DATA REGARDING OVERFLIGHTS OF THE PRC BY THE APOLLO/SOYUZ MISSION. FYI: REQUESTS FOR PRC COOPERATION, INCLUDING REFERENCE TO NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, AND DATA ON SKYLAB WERE PASSED TO THE PRC IN 1973 THROUGH US EMBASSY PARIS AND USLO PEKING. END FYI

4. FOR PARIS: IN PAST YEARS FRENCH HAVE TAKEN PRECAUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR ATMOSPHERIC TESTING TO ASSURE THAT IT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH ANY PLANNED US SPACE FLIGHTS. WE REALIZE THAT FRENCH PLAN TO CONDUCT ANY TESTS THIS YEAR UNDERGROUND. EMBASSY SHOULD NEVERTHELESS INFORM THE SERVICE DES PACTES THAT WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THIS CHANGE IN FRENCH PLANS, WE WISH TO BRING TO THEIR ATTENTION THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THE PLANNED MANNED SPACEFLIGHT MISSION OF THE APOLLO/SOYUZ TEST FLIGHT, WHICH HAS A SCHEDULED LAUNCH DATE OF JULY 15. THE LOW ALTITUDE  
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IS TO BE 118 NM AT WHICH EYE DAMAGE COULD OCCUR IF A LOW ALTITUDE NUCLEAR DETONATION WERE VISIBLE. THE SPACECRAFT WILL FOLLOW AN ORBITAL PATH BETWEEN 52 DEGREES NORTH AND 52 DEGREES SOUTH. THE SOYUZ SPACECRAFT WILL LAND ON JULY 21 AND APOLLO ON JULY 24. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON ORBITAL PATHS IF FRENCH DESIRE. MAW

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPACE FLIGHT, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750194-0437  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
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**Review Date:** 14 MAY 2003  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** TSPA, UR, US  
**To:** MOSCOW  
NEW DELHI  
PARIS  
PEKING  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

